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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS # 1
Request for Proposals
Community Wind Services
For the Maryland Energy Administration

PROJECT NO. DEXR1400001
December 3, 2013

Ladies/Gentlemen:

This List of Questions and Answers #1, questions #1 through #9, is being issued to clarify certain information contained in the above named RFP. The statements and interpretations of Contract requirements which are stated in the following questions of potential Offerors, are not binding on the State, unless the State expressly amends the RFP. Nothing in the State's responses to these questions is to be construed as agreement to or acceptance by the State of any statement or interpretation on the part of the vendor asking the question as to what the contract does or does not require. However, if from a particular vendor question(s), it seems as if the vendor has misinterpreted RFP wording referenced in a question, the State's response typically will point out the misinterpretation as part of the answer to the question.

1. *"The RFP asked for a fixed price for each Game Changer assistance. However, it is unclear in the RFP how much time and effort will be required. Please specify a hourly range for the average Game Changer assistance task. Also travel and local permitting / planning support is often required to successfully permit a wind turbine in any jurisdiction in Maryland. Should we plan on including travel and public meeting support on this Game Changer task?"*

STATE RESPONSE:

Contractor shall not be required to provide more than 120 hours of assistance during 1 year in satisfaction of this provision. This covers all Game Changer Grant champion project proponents and is inclusive of travel.

Per the RFP's Financial Proposal Instructions, Attachment F- Section I, financial proposal prices are to be fully loaded prices that include all costs/expenses associated with providing the services required by the RFP. Travel and local permitting/planning support costs should be included in those rates.

2. *“Permits for Met towers are often required by local jurisdictions. Are we to include permitting and any engineering, such as a geotechnical report, in our price for Met Towers?”*

STATE RESPONSE:

Depending on local requirements, assistance provided to property owners for the acquisition of permits may include development of permit drawings and assistance with preparation of permit packages. However, Contractor shall not be responsible for additional costs associated with geotechnical work for installation of Met towers. Contractor shall notify MEA if such work is required by local permitting jurisdiction and MEA will decide whether the installation merits these additional costs. Contractor shall be responsible for coordinating permits with local jurisdictions for the deployment of Met towers.

3. *“Are there calibration criteria or protocol for making adjustments to ensure performance and data accuracy and established maintenance procedures.”*

(Reference 3.2.2.2 (e): When an anemometer tower is deployed, Contractor shall be responsible for monitoring wind speed and direction performance, and performing any necessary adjustment or maintenance. Contractor shall provide anemometry data to MEA in a —dashboard format that illustrates deployment locations on a map of Maryland along with speed and direction data for each deployment, given in: monthly average; average to-date; and as close to real-time as possible. The data stream is collected via cellular connectivity and is transmitted continuously in real time. Contractor shall arrange to host this information on a website that is available to MEA.)

STATE RESPONSE:

Contractor shall be responsible for ensuring that deployment complies with manufacturer specifications and performing any necessary adjustment or maintenance. However, Contractor shall not be responsible for calibrating anemometers, as that is performed by the manufacturer prior to deployment.

4. *“What is the surveying accuracy required?”*

Reference 3.2.2.2 (g): The Contractor shall post the deployment map locations and data averages specified in paragraph e, above, to a Contractor web site. MEA may direct public web traffic to Contractor’s external site from the MEA web site. Contractor shall also forward the location in latitude and longitude, height in Above Ground Level and Above Mean Sea Level, marking/light (if any), and dates of commissioning and decommissioning of all MET tower installations under this Contract to the Maryland Aviation Administration, Office of Regional Aviation Assistance.

STATE RESPONSE:

NRG Systems GPS equipment is accurate to within 50 feet. Anemometer heights should be sited on the tower to within 1/10th of a meter of specified height.

5. *“Does assistance include development of the permit drawings and preparation of the permit packages?”*

Reference 3.2.2.2 (j) - *Contractor shall be responsible for deployment, monitoring and decommissioning anemometer installations at up to four (4) sites in the state during a calendar year. Contractor shall provide assistance to projects in the acquisition of necessary permits from county, municipal and local government agencies, including provision of technical specifications or documents. Assistance does not mean purchasing anything, paying for permits or hiring another source to do added work. Any requirement requiring additional resources shall be reported to the Contract Monitor for further action and direction.*

STATE RESPONSE:

Depending on local requirements, assistance provided to property owners for the acquisition of permits may include development of permit drawings and assistance with preparation of permit packages. Contractor shall be responsible for coordinating permits with local jurisdictions for the deployment of Met towers.

6. *“Is there a check list of what needs to be incorporated in both the Deployment plan and associated on the site survey plans (e.g. sensitive habitats, flood plain, topo, property boundaries, etc.) and drawing requirements (e.g. scales, spatial extent, size, other formats, etc.)?”*

Reference 3.2.2.3 (a) - *Following NTP, MEA will provide contractor with a queue of potential MET installation sites in Maryland as well as a list of currently deployed anemometers. Within 1 month of receiving NTP, Contractor shall provide MEA the following:*

- *Deployment plan to include the site survey plans and timeline for installing and decommissioning sites in queue;*

STATE RESPONSE:

Deployment plans and site survey plans shall provide, at a minimum, a level of detail sufficient to comply with local permitting requirements, but shall include at a minimum property lines, structures and topography. No particular scale, size or format is specified at this time.

8. *“Who supplies power for the data capture equipment?”*

STATE RESPONSE:

Power supply for Met towers shall be provided by property owner or through supplemental equipment. The current equipment package for this program does not include remote power supply

equipment. However, if a site requires remote power supplies, MEA may procure this equipment and add it to the program. In that case, Supplemental power supplies shall be provided to Contractor by MEA as needed. Contractor may be required to provide deployment and decommissioning of this equipment with a Met tower.

9. "What subcontractor / MBE subcontractor NAICS codes are eligible for this RFP:

*237130 - MBE/DBE - POWER AND COMMUNICATION LINE AND RELATED STRUCTURES
CONSTRUCTION*

541690 - MBE/DBE - OTHER SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL CONSULTING SERVICES

Are these two the only codes eligible? Please advise as to all the codes for all three contract tasks"

STATE RESPONSE:

More than the two codes mentioned are eligible; however, the selection of the applicable code is dependent upon the description of work for the MBE subcontractor. The intended work for the MBE sub may or may not be directly related to contract tasks but could be for supporting tasks. Said another way, the proposed MBE must have the qualifications represented by the NAICS code to do the work you describe and intend for the MBE to perform. Accordingly, we are unable to list all possible eligible NAICS codes for the three tasks described in the RFP.

Should you require clarification of the information provided, please contact me via e-mail or (410) 260-7752 as soon as possible.

Date Issued: December 3, 2013

By:
Maria Ulrich
Procurement Officer